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Contact:

Steve Kwaterski (414) 286-8504

City Exceeds Goals for Resident Preference and Emerging Business Enterprise Programs

MILWAUKEE – Mayor Tom Barrett announced today that the City of Milwaukee exceeded its goals for the Residents Preference Program (RPP) and the Emerging Business Enterprise Program.

Sixty-nine Department of Public Works contracts closed in 2008 produced an overall 31.3% City resident participation rate. The goal was 25%.

The City surpassed the 18% goal established for the Emerging Business Enterprise Program (EBE). For contracts closed in 2008, 22.9% of the contracted work was awarded to Milwaukee emerging businesses.

The Residential Preference Program is intended to put unemployed City residents to work on City projects. On top of the 31.3% targeted residents working on City contracts, an additional 15.7% of non-targeted City residents were employed on City contracts.

"I am pleased that for another year, the City of Milwaukee has been able to exceed its goals of employing City residents working on Public Works contracts and for providing emerging Milwaukee businesses with the opportunity to grow and establish themselves," said Mayor Barrett. "It's good for Milwaukee when we invest in our residents and our businesses."